

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (previously presented) A drain socket for connecting an outlet of a trap drainage channel of a flush toilet unit and a drain pipe located external of the flush toilet unit, said drain socket comprising:

a drain socket body provided with an inlet for coupling with the trap drainage channel and an outlet for coupling with the drain pipe;

a siphon inducing region provided on an inner wall of the drain socket body for inducing a siphon effect; and

a straightening vane provided upstream of the siphon inducing region of the drain socket body to extend from the inner wall of the drain socket body in an inward direction of a channel of the drain socket body.

2. (original) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the siphon inducing region includes a contraction step provided near an outlet portion of the outlet of the drain socket body.

3. (original) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the siphon inducing region includes a channel contraction section provided in the drain socket body.

4. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 3, wherein said drain socket further comprises a channel expansion section provided on an upstream side of the channel contraction section and the straightening vane is provided in the channel expansion section.

5. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 4, wherein the straightening vane is provided on an inner wall of the channel expansion section and the

channel contraction section to extend in the inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body.

6. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the number of straightening vanes is in the range of from 2 to 16.

7. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the length of the straightening vane from the inner wall of the drain socket body in the inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body is not less than 1 mm and not greater than  $(D1-D2)/2$  mm, where D1 mm is the inside diameter of the drain socket body channel inner wall at the section where the straightening vanes are provided and D2 mm is the inside diameter of the outlet of the drain socket body.

8. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the straightening vane is not less than 2 mm and not greater than 40 mm.

9. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the spacing between tips of the straightening vanes in the inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body is equal to or greater than 10 mm and equal to or less than 100 mm.

10. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 4, wherein a region of the drain socket body at a boundary between the channel expansion section and the channel contraction section is constituted as a divisible structure.

11. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 3, wherein the drain socket body is structured to establish the relationship  $L > D$ , where L is the length of the region between the channel contraction section and the outlet of the drain socket body and D is the inside diameter thereof.

12. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 1, wherein the drain socket body comprises a toilet socket module provided at the inlet of the drain socket

body for accommodating the outlet of the trap drainage channel and a drain pipe socket module provided at the outlet of the drain socket body for insertion into the drain pipe.

13. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 3, wherein the drain socket body has a lateral pipe section extending laterally a predetermined distance between the channel contraction section and the outlet of the drain socket body.

14. (previously presented) A flush toilet comprising a drain socket according to claim 1 and a flush toilet unit in an integrated structure.

15. (currently amended) ~~A drain socket for connecting an outlet of a trap drainage channel of a flush toilet unit and a drain pipe located external of the flush toilet unit, said drain socket comprising:~~

~~a drain socket body provided with an inlet for coupling with the trap drainage channel and an outlet for coupling with the drain pipe;~~

~~a channel contraction section provided in a channel of the drain socket body;~~

The drain socket according to claim 3, further comprising a guide groove provided on [[a]] the downstream side of the channel contraction section continuously in a water flow direction; and the entire channel in the drain socket body having an inside diameter equal to or larger than the inside diameter of the outlet of the trap drainage channel.

16. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein said drain socket further comprises a channel expansion section on an upstream side of the channel contraction section.

17. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein the guide groove is formed by cutting away a part of the channel contraction section.

18. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein said drain socket further comprises a straightening vane provided at the channel contraction

section and at an inner wall upstream of the channel contraction section to extend in an inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body.

19. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 16, wherein said drain socket further comprises a straightening vane provided at the channel expansion section and the channel contraction section to extend in an inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body.

20. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein the number of guide grooves is in the range of from 2 to 16.

21. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein the depth of the guide groove is equal to or greater than 1 mm and equal to or less than 15 mm.

22. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein the width of the guide groove is not less than 2 mm and not greater than 30 mm.

23. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein guide grooves are provided with a spacing of guide groove tips in the inward direction of the channel of the drain socket body of equal to or greater than 5 mm and equal to or less than 100 mm.

24. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein a region of the drain socket body at a boundary between the channel contraction section and the guide groove is constituted as a divisible structure.

25. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 15, wherein the drain socket body is structured to establish the relationship  $L > D$ , where L is the length of the region between the channel contraction section and an outlet provided with the guide groove and D is the inside diameter thereof.

26. (previously presented) A flush toilet comprising a drain socket according to claim 15 and a flush toilet unit.

27. (previously presented) A drain socket to be arranged to connect an outlet of a trap drainage channel of a flush toilet unit and a drain pipe located external of the flush toilet unit whose center is eccentrically located with respect to the center of the outlet of the trap drainage channel, said drain socket comprising:

an inlet for coupling with the outlet of the trap drainage channel;

a channel expansion section having an inside diameter expanding toward a downstream side from the inlet;

a deflector plate extending in an inward direction from an inner wall of the channel expansion section;

a siphon inducing shelf formed at a downstream end of the channel expansion section to extend at least on the side in the direction opposite from the direction of eccentricity; and

a bent pipe that extends from the downstream end of the channel expansion section and whose downstream end couples with the drain pipe.

28. (original) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein the deflector plate is formed only on the inner wall of the channel expansion section on the side in the direction opposite from the direction of eccentricity.

29. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein the deflector plate is formed to be spaced apart from the siphon inducing shelf.

30. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein the deflector plate is of generally triangular shape, a first side of the triangular shape being joined to the inner wall of the channel expansion section, a second side being directed substantially horizontally, a third side being directed so that an extension thereof lies substantially tangent to an inner wall of the bent pipe on the side in the direction opposite from the direction of eccentricity, and an apex between the second side and the third side is rounded.

31. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 29, wherein a gap between the deflector plate and the siphon inducing shelf is between 5 and 15 mm.

32. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 28, wherein the siphon inducing shelf is formed to be widest at the middle and to narrow progressively in the direction of eccentricity.

33. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein the deflector plate extends farther inward than the siphon inducing shelf.

34. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein the end portion of the bent pipe on the downstream side is constituted as a straight pipe.

35. (previously presented) The drain socket according to claim 27, wherein said drain socket further comprises a coupling flange for supporting the bent pipe on a floor on which the flush toilet unit is to be installed, the end of the bent pipe on the downstream side being above the floor when the coupling flange is set on the floor.

36. (previously presented) A flush toilet comprising a drain socket according to claim 27 and a flush toilet unit.